



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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Telephone (435) 586-2401
www.ut.blm.gov/cedar_city/



5/001/063

In Reply Refer To:

UT-042

3809: UTU-80852, Blawn Mtn. POO

January 5, 2004

Mr. Sandy Nell
13171 S 3300 W
Riverton, UT 84065

Dear Mr. Nell:

This letter is in response to your written request, dated 12/11/2003 and received in this office on 12/24/2003, to amend your approved plan of operations for the Blawn Mtn. Kaolin Mine, BLM file UTU-80852, Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining file S/001/063.

The amendment requests adding a ¼ acre stockpiling / transfer point on BLM land located at the junction of the Seeps Road and the Jockey Road, being within the SE¼NW¼ of sec. 15, T. 30 S., R. 15 W., Beaver County. The transfer point will alleviate problems in hauling from the Blawn Mtn. mine site in winter conditions by allowing you to dedicate a chained-up haulage truck to convey the raw kaolin from the mine site to the transfer point. The transfer point is intended to be a temporary solution to allow haulage from the site this winter, and will only be needed through late Spring of this year, at which time it will be reclaimed.

The amendment request has been reviewed for completeness and compliance with the 3809 regulations, and for possible conflicts with cultural resources, threatened or endangered (T & E) plants and animals. The amendment was accepted as complete and no resource conflicts requiring special stipulations were identified in the amendment review. As you are aware, the requested site for the transfer point is coincident with a seasonally-occupied, stock-watering site, to take advantage of an existing disturbed area. BLM's approval of the amendment is premised on your restoring the site sufficiently by late spring so the site can revert to its former use.

You proposed that your current bond of \$4,000 was adequate to include the disturbance associated with the transfer point. I have not concluded that the \$4,000 is adequate to include this additional disturbance, however, I am willing to allow you to proceed with the amendment work under the present bond amount, provided you can commit to performing the earthwork reclamation on the transfer point no later than April 30th, 2004. If the earthwork reclamation is not completed for the transfer point by that time, you will be served with a noncompliance order requiring you to immediately reclaim the transfer point and to post a reclamation bond to cover the specific costs of reclaiming the transfer site until the reclamation is completed.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 435-865-3040.

Sincerely,

Ed Ginouves
Staff Mining Engineer

cc: Tom Munson, DOGM, with copy of plan amendment

RECEIVED

JAN 07 2004

DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

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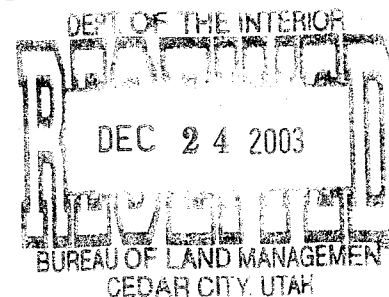
Request for Plan of Operations Modification under the 43 CFR 3809.430

3809.401(b)(1) – Operator Information

Name: Mr. Sandy Nell
Address: 13171 S 3300 W
Riverton, UT 84065
Phone: 801-253-2494 (home), 801-599-3530 (cell)
FAX:

Taxpayer ID #:

BLM UMC # of unpatented mining claims were activity is proposed: none, site is unclaimed BLM land



3809.401(b)(2) – Description of Modification

This modification is requested to modify my approved plan of operation for the Blawn Mtn. Kaolin Mine, UTU-80852, Division file S/001/063.

The plan amendment requests utilizing an existing disturbed area located on unappropriated BLM-managed land near the road intersection of the Seeps Road and the Jockey Road. The area is to be used as a transfer point for raw kaolin removed from the Blawn Mtn. kaolin mine. The proposed site falls within the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of sec. 15, T. 30 S., R. 15 W., Beaver County, Utah (see attached map). The relevant maps are the BLM Wah Wah Mtns. South land status map, and the USGS The Tetons 7.5' topographic map.

The operator has been experiencing problems getting haul trucks up the steep grades leading to the ridge-top mine site due to blowing and drifting snow in the canyon bottom of the haul road. Despite regular grading of the road, the empty haul trucks can't climb the grade due to road icing. To overcome this problem, they need to chain up the haul trucks or utilize a special 4-wheel drive haulage truck. By having a transfer point at the Jockey Road the operator could dedicate a single chained-up or 4-wheel drive haul truck to making the 14 mile round trip from the mine site to the Jockey Road, and utilize regular haul trucks to take the material the remaining haul distance to the Escalante Valley.

The existing disturbed area consists of an area of ~ $\frac{1}{4}$ acre in the sagebrush that has been used in the summer months by the grazing allottee as stock watering site. The site has been beaten down around the troughs by cattle and water truck traffic.

The proposed action is to scrape off the vegetation and the upper 6" of soil from a $\frac{1}{2}$ acre area centered on the existing disturbed area and place raw kaolin on this area for temporary storage until it was transferred into another haul trucks to bring it to the operator's private storage site in the Escalante Valley. The site would be used only for this winter, through late April, 2004, at which time all the kaolin would be removed from the site, the stockpiled soil re-spread on the site, and the site seeded.

3809.401(b)(3) – Reclamation Plan

The site would be pre-stripped of vegetative matter and the upper 1' of soil material and this material stockpiled at the edge of the clearing. If it is necessary to strip additional sub-soil, this sub-soil will be stripped and stockpiled separately from the topsoil at the edge of the clearing. The site will be reclaimed by removing all stockpiled kaolin, replacing any subsoil, then spreading and leveling the stockpiled topsoil and vegetative matter. The site will be broadcast seeded with a seed mix as specified by the BLM office.

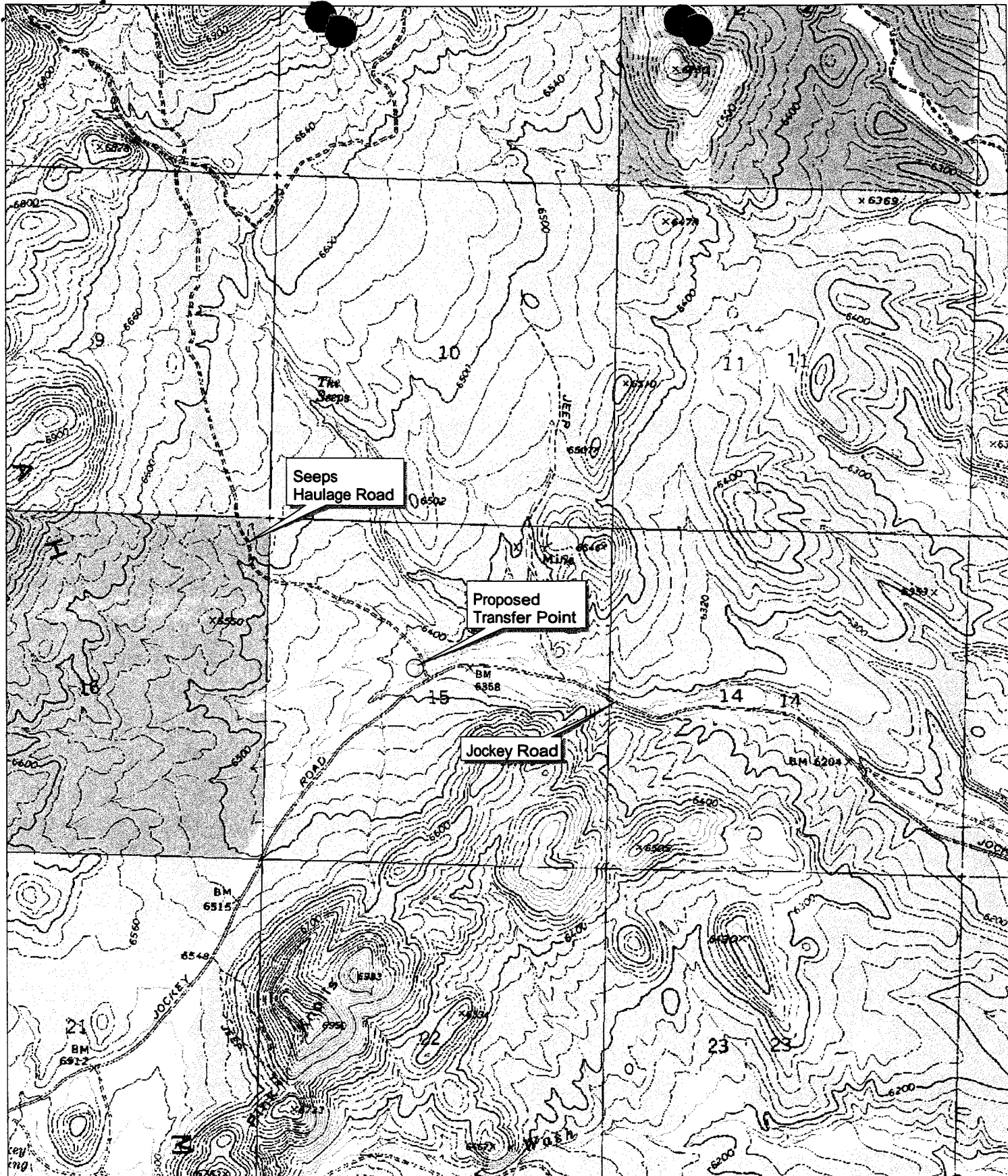
3809.301(b)(4) – Reclamation Cost Estimate

The operator proposes that the existing reclamation security of \$4,000 for the plan be used to secure 3rd party reclamation of the proposed disturbances within the exploration area.

Sandy Nell
Operator Signature

12/11/2003
Date

ER
1/5/04



Project: Blawn Mtn. Kaolin Mine Amendment
Seeps Road Transfer Point
Operator: Sandy Nell
BLM File: UTU-80852
NEPA: CX UT-040-04-17
Notes: 0.5 acre transfer point
T. 30 S., R. 15 W., sec. 15: SENW
Base Map: USGS The Tetons 7.5' Quad



Scale 1: 24,000
1"= 2,000'